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## NEWS RELEASE

### **Valles Caldera Trust Releases Draft Environmental Impact Statement**

**Jemez Springs, NM---** The Valles Caldera Trust (Trust) released a Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) for the proposed Public Access and Use Plan (PAUP) aimed at expanding visitor access to the Valles Caldera National Preserve (preserve). The plan describes six alternatives for the development of facilities and infrastructure on the landscape including sites for a visitor center. The DEIS describes possible effects and environmental impacts each alternative may have on the preserve. A complete version of the DEIS is available at [www.vallescaldera.gov](http://www.vallescaldera.gov); a link is available on our home page.

The Trust is seeking input on the DEIS and PAUP and has opened a 60-day public comment period from June 15, 2012 through August 14, 2012 following the publication of notice in the Federal Register. The simplest way to comment is through our online public comment system. The system allows you to enter text up to 500 words or to upload a PDF document. To comment or view the DEIS visit our home page, [www.vallescaldera.gov](http://www.vallescaldera.gov) and select the link from our home page. You may also submit comments via email to [stewardship@vallescaldera.gov](mailto:stewardship@vallescaldera.gov) or by surface mail to:

**Valles Caldera Trust**  
**Attn. PAUP Comments**  
**PO Box 359**  
**Jemez Springs, New Mexico 87025**

All names and submissions will be entered into an administrative record that will be available to the public upon request. Trust officials will host two public meetings to present an overview of the DEIS and answer questions. The meetings will run from 5:00 – 7:00 pm at the following dates and locations.

- **June 25, 2012 – The Valles Caldera Trust Science and Education Center in Jemez Springs, 90 Villa Luis Martin, Jemez Springs (off NM 4, north of Jemez Springs) 505-629-1417**
- **June 26, 2012 – The UNM - Los Alamos, 4000 University Drive, Los Alamos 505-662-5919**

After the 60-day public comment period the document may be revised based on the public comments received. A final version of the document will then be released and a 30-day no-action period will follow. Subsequent to the 30-day period, the alternative comprising the approved plan will be documented in a record of decision.

For more information, contact the project leader, Marie Rodriguez at 505/661-3333 or email [mrodriguez@vallescaldera.gov](mailto:mrodriguez@vallescaldera.gov).

The Valles Caldera Trust oversees the Valles Caldera National Preserve, formerly the privately owned “Baca Ranch.” The 88,900 acre property is located in the Jemez Mountains in northern New Mexico. It was purchased by the federal government in 2000 under the Valles Caldera National Preservation Act. The property is known for its huge meadows, abundant wildlife, meandering streams and remarkable scenery. More information about the preserve can be found at [www.vallescaldera.gov](http://www.vallescaldera.gov).

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